

50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE FOR THE SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU AND THE CITY OF HIROSHIMA

The Honorable Nestor Garcia Chair, Committee on Budget Honolulu City Council City and County of Honolulu 530 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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To the Honorable Nestor Garcia;

On behalf of the 50th anniversary sister city committee, we are in support of Bill 15 Executive Budget.

Since the establishment of our 50th sister city committee in 2008, we have been working diligently with the Office of Economic Development to establish programs and events to commemorate this milestone year for this sister city relationship between the City and County of Honolulu and the City of Hiroshima. With the guidance and input of the Office of Economic Development, we have established commemorative events in Honolulu (July 5 to 9, 2009) and in Hiroshima (November 3 to 7, 2009).

The scope of our 50th anniversary commemoration includes a trade mission to Hiroshima to promote Honolulu with the emphasis on encouraging tourism to Hawaii and to develop business opportunities in Hawaii. The target markets that are being pursued are the 1.1 million residents of the City of Hiroshima and the 2.9 million citizens of Hiroshima Prefecture as well. All funds requested through the Office of Economic Development are essential to our 50th anniversary commemorations in 2009. It is our hope that all funds requested for the Office of Economic Development's 2010 budget will also be retained.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration of our request and for allowing us the opportunity to express our thoughts on this upcoming unique celebration.

Sincerely Yours,

Wayre Ellija.

Wayne T. Miyao

Chairman

50th Anniversary Sister City Committee

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